

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Sadanand V. Deshpande, et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No: To be assigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: Herewith

Docket: FIS920030078US2-(16422A)

For: STI STRESS MODIFICATION BY
NITROGEN PLASMA TREATMENT FOR
IMPROVING PERFORMANCE IN SMALL
WIDTH DEVICES

Dated: January 5, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In connection with filing the above-identified application under 37 C.F.R.
§1.53(b), applicants submit the following amendments and remarks for consideration by the
Examiner and entry of record in the above-identified patent application.

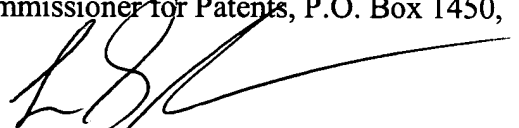
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on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 5, 2004.

Dated: January 5, 2004



Leslie S. Szivos, Ph.D.